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IMMUNIZATION UPDATES - January/February 2013

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1. 2013 Immunization Schedules Published

On 28 Jan 2013, the CDC published the updated ACIP recommendations for pediatric and adult immunization schedules. Changes to the pediatric schedules include the merger of the two into one schedule for persons age 0 through 18 years. In addition, the new design has added dosing clarification to the bars, and a few diseases (meningococcal, hepatitis A, influenza and pneumococcal) had minor changes to better reflect the current guidelines.

The adult schedule has been updated to better reflect current pneumococcal and Tdap recommendations and the new quadrivalent influenza vaccine expected in the 2013-14 influenza season.

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules>

2. Influenza CDC and DoD Surveillance Reports

Each week the CDC prepares FluView, an influenza surveillance report, which summarizes national and regional trends. This report is an excellent snapshot of what the US is seeing in influenza cases, hospitalizations and outpatient influenza-like illness.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivitysurv.htm>

The DoD has a similar weekly influenza report that is prepared by the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center. This report highlights influenza rates by active duty service members, beneficiaries and by COCOM (EUCOM & PACOM).

<http://afhsc.mil/fluReports>

3. IOM Releases Childhood Immunization Schedule and Safety Report

The Institute of Medicine (IOM), an arm of the National Academy of Sciences, is a non-government organization that provides unbiased and authoritative advice to decision makers and the public. On 16 Jan 2013 the IOM released a report titled Childhood Immunization Schedules and Safety: Stakeholder Concerns, Scientific Evidence and Future Studies. This report is the most comprehensive examination of the childhood immunization schedule to date. The IOM committee uncovered no evidence of major safety concerns associated with adherence to the childhood immunization schedule. Should signals arise that there may be need for investigation, however, the report offers a framework for conducting safety research using existing or new data collection systems.

<http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2013/The-Childhood-Immunization-Schedule-and-Safety.aspx>

4. Prepare for National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW)

The week of 20-27 Apr 2013 is National Infant Immunization Week, an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization programs and their partners in promoting healthy communities. Since 1994, NIIW has served as a call to action for parents, caregivers, and healthcare providers to ensure that infants are fully immunized against 14 vaccine-preventable diseases. The CDC has updated the NIIW page with many educational resources, event planning tools and media tools available to help you plan for a great week.

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niiw/index.html>

5. What Are Your Clinic's New Year's Resolutions?

Strengthen Staff Education -- Assign a junior staff member to be the staff education point of contact (POC). The POC will be responsible for planning a tentative education calendar for the year, managing training folders and tracking staff continuing education. The calendar should highlight the needs for education defined by the staff, as well as required training. Continuing education can be accomplished using a wide variety of programs, to include, CDC online programs, vaccine manufacturer lectures, or even state or local vaccine coalition events.

For assistance in developing your education calendar see the new MILVAX CE calendar, available from the MILVAX front page or through IMZU training, and the list of upcoming educational events sponsored by different national, state immunization coalitions and MILVAX.

<http://www.vaccines.mil/calendar/>

Improve Vaccine Advocacy -- Begin the New Year with proper guidance! Help decrease vaccine preventable disease burdens and allow for the safe delegation of the immunization process. Review and update all vaccine standing orders. Need assistance with this goal as well?

Travel vaccines: <http://www.vaccines.mil/standingOrders>

Pediatrics/Adult Routine vaccines: <http://www.immunize.org/standing-orders>

6. MILVAX Training Opportunities

Immunization Basic Course

Newport, RI
7 Mar 13

Norfolk, VA
18 Mar 13

Fort Bragg, NC
15 Apr 13

<http://www.vaccines.mil/ibc>

Immunization Leaders Course

Norfolk, VA
19-21 Mar 13

Fort Bragg, NC
16-18 Apr 13

<http://www.vaccines.mil/ilc>

For a complete description of all the courses offered by MILVAX please see the MILVAX website and check out the many education opportunities that are available within Immunization University.

<http://www.vaccines.mil/training>

7. Upcoming Events & Conferences

Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Meeting
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta, GA
20-21 Nov 13

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/meetings-info.html>

Clinical Vaccinology Course
National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID)
Chicago, IL
8-10 Mar 13

<http://www.cvent.com/events/clinical-vaccinology-course>

Vaccine Update Webinar Series
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Vaccine Education Center
13 Mar 13/12:00 P.M. ET

<http://www.chop.edu/professionals/vaccine-healthcare>

CDC Webinar Series: Current Issues in Immunization
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
March 21, 2013

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/ciinc/default.htm#next>

Military Vaccine Agency
<http://www.vaccines.mil>
<http://www.smallpox.mil>
<http://www.anthrax.mil>

(877)GET-VACC
<mailto:usarmy.ncr.hqda-otsg.mbx.otsg-milvax@mail.mil>

Please feel free to pass this message on to your colleagues. To add or remove your name from this mailing list, please click here --
<http://www.vaccines.mil/listserv>